

7 Jun 1982

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[redacted]
Lockheed Corporation
Burbank, CA 91520

Dear [redacted]

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I sincerely appreciate the efforts of you and your company relative to underwriting and facilitating donation of U-2 serial #347 and J-57 SN P610424 to the Smithsonian Museum. This letter is authorization to proceed with those actions Lockheed and Pratt & Whitney generously agreed to fund, preparation and trucking of this historic U-2 to the Smithsonian Garber facility.

Your letter of 17 March 82 adequately addresses those save list items the Air Force must retain as spares to support current operations. I am pleased to say that Det. 8 has agreed to the release of a tail pipe to accompany the aircraft delivery. The Air Force feels the normal commercial liability insurance (\$250K per truck) will adequately cover the borrowed handling equipment insurance requirements with the aircraft and engine being surplus to Air Force needs. I believe any insurance concern has been previously resolved.

Our conversations with the Smithsonian indicate a late August delivery would be their first choice, but getting the aircraft is more important than any of their delivery date problems. Please consider the Smithsonian request and let me know as to the possibility of a shipping delay to late August. If timing is critical to your funding of preparation and delivery it should be the overriding factor. The Smithsonian plans to place the aircraft in a facility at Garber which has a 30x30 foot door. The area inside is not projected to be cleared to allow its assembly until late August. If delivery occurs prior to facility availability they will (1) assemble outside at delivery time and later disassemble/move in for reassembly, or (2) simply unload and assemble at a later date inside the building. Assembly/disassembly will be far more difficult and hazardous for Smithsonian personnel because the loaned AGE will be returned to California on the aircraft delivery trucks.

If the late August timing is not workable we will pursue other AGE possibilities, such as the museum constructing their own devices from drawings or loan of NASA equipment later.

Sincerely

WILLIAM E. LAWSON, III, Col, USAF
Chief, Special Projects Office
Directorate of Development &
Production, DCS/RD&A

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